Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

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2015/16 Annual Service Plan Report

For contact information and hyperlinks to additional information about the
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and the
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see pages 32 - 33.

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Attorney General and Minister of Justice Message and Accountability Statement

As British Columbia's Attorney General and Minister of Justice, I am pleased to introduce this joint *2015/16 Annual Service Plan Report* for the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General. The report highlights the many ways we are working to transform the justice and public safety sector, enhancing access to justice for British Columbians.

We have made significant progress on the mandate letter directions provided to us by Premier Christy Clark.

We have laid the groundwork for Canada's first online tribunal – the Civil Resolution Tribunal – which will offer 24/7 access to user-focused services for resolving strata and small claims disputes. We are also modernizing the tribunal sector through the *Administrative Tribunal Statutes Amendment Act*, brought into force in December 2015 to enable the clustering of sector-based tribunals, online service delivery, integrated support services and systems, and streamlined dispute resolution processes.

The expansion of B.C.'s busiest provincial court location – the Surrey provincial courthouse – was announced in March 2015, paving the way for faster and smoother access to justice in the Lower Fraser Valley.

We are implementing a series of service-focused initiatives through the Court Administration Transformation Suite to allow court matters to be conducted more efficiently both inside and outside the courtroom. Released in March 2016, the Specialized Courts Strategy provides an evidence-based, integrated approach for specialized courts in British Columbia.

British Columbia continues in a leadership role as we work with jurisdictions across Canada to enforce interjurisdictional support orders, cutting red tape and speeding up enforcement action for those not making their payments.

In January 2016, I met with my federal, provincial and territorial colleagues to discuss key justice and public safety priorities and release the *Federal-Provincial-Territorial Framework to Address Violence Against Indigenous Women and Girls*. We have expressed support for the federal government's national inquiry into missing and murdered Aboriginal women and have committed to sharing with the federal government the lessons learned from the B.C. Missing Women Commission of Inquiry.

These and our many other significant accomplishments of 2015/16 are highlighted in this report. The joint *2015/16 Annual Service Plan Report* for the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General compares the actual results to the expected results identified in the *Ministry of Justice 2015/16 Service Plan*. I am accountable for those results as reported.

Honourable Suzanne Anton QC
Attorney General and
Minister of Justice

June 30, 2016

Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General Message and Accountability Statement

I am pleased to introduce this joint *2015/16 Annual Service Plan Report* for the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and the Ministry of Justice.

Since being named Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General in December 2015, I have been building on the work of Minister Anton with a focus on safety in our communities and on the roadways of British Columbia.

Approximately $60 million a year is provided to the RCMP in British Columbia for the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit (CFSEU-BC) and anti-gang initiatives. This investment supports frontline efforts to keep young people out of gangs and remove gangsters, their associates and illegal weapons from our streets.

In September 2015, government announced a $5 million investment over two years to enhance community safety through the Guns and Gangs Strategy. In April 2016, government also announced a $23 million boost to the Guns and Gangs Strategy, meaning more police teams and prosecutors dedicated to combating gang violence will be on the ground and new curbs on gang crime and illegal guns will soon be in place.

Preventing violence against Aboriginal women and girls is a key priority of the justice and public safety sector. Released in February 2015, *A Vision for a Violence Free BC* charts the path to creating a province where comprehensive supports and initiatives are in place to help prevent violence, and where all women and girls can escape from violent situations and recover if they have been victims of violence. In addition, the Civil Forfeiture Office takes the ill-gotten proceeds of crime and puts it back into communities through grants that support crime prevention and anti-gang initiatives.

We are committed to road safety principles that will lead British Columbia to having the safest roads in North America by 2020. This spring, government announced new distracted driving measures to give the province one of the most comprehensive sets of penalties for distracted driving in Canada. These changes are the result of a four-week public consultation, during which more than 10,000 submissions and comments on distracted driving were received from British Columbians and road safety stakeholders.

This report identifies these and our many other significant accomplishments in the last fiscal year. The joint *2015/16 Annual Service Plan Report* for the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General compares actual results to the expected results identified in the *Ministry of Justice 2015/16 Service Plan*. I am accountable for those results as reported.

Honourable Mike Morris
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General

June 30, 2016

Table of Contents

Attorney General and Minister of Justice Message and Accountability Statement **3**

Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General Message and Accountability Statement **4**

Purpose of the Ministries **6**

Strategic Direction and Context **6**

Report on Performance **7**

Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Performance Results 8

Financial Report **21**

Discussion of Results – Ministry of Justice 21

Financial Report Summary Tables – Ministry of Justice 21

Discussion of Results – Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 24

Financial Report Summary Tables – Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 24

Major Capital Projects – Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 26

Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit – British Columbia 27

Appendices **28**

Appendix A: Ministers' Mandate and Actions Summary 28

Appendix B: Contact Information and Hyperlinks to Additional Information 32

Appendix C: Agencies, Boards and Commissions 34

Purpose of the Ministries

The Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General share the vision of a safe, secure, just and resilient British Columbia. The ministries work together to administer justice, deliver public safety services and programs, and provide legal advice to government.[1]

The Ministry of Justice is responsible for the following program areas: administrative, civil and family justice services; court services; family maintenance enforcement; legal advice and services to government; legal aid; and prosecution services.[2]

The areas of responsibility of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General are: civil forfeiture; consumer protection; coroners service; correctional services; crime prevention; criminal record checks; law enforcement; policing; private security industry regulation; restorative justice; road safety; and victim services.[3]

Strategic Direction and Context

The ministries are committed to transforming the justice and public safety sector, working in collaboration with leaders, participants and stakeholders across the sector. This commitment is consistent with the directions provided by Premier Christy Clark in her mandate letters to the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, and the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General.[4]

The ministries support government's commitment to building a strong economy and a secure tomorrow for the citizens of British Columbia, and deliver their responsibilities in accordance with the Taxpayer Accountability Principles to ensure cost conscious and accountable governance, and accountability to British Columbians.

Numerous external factors affect the ministries in delivering their responsibilities and shape the transformation agenda of the justice and public safety sector, including:

- Increased service delivery demands and costs;
- The national dialogue on the need to improve access to justice;
- Mental health and addiction issues demanding increased resources and enhanced coordination of services;

[1] In December 2015, the Ministry of Justice became two ministries: The Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General. In August 2015, responsibility for Emergency Management BC moved from the Ministry of Justice to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. Also at that time, the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch and responsibility for the Liquor Distribution Branch were transferred to the Ministry of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction and Minister Responsible for the Liquor Distribution Branch.

[2] The Ministry of Justice also oversees a number of agencies, boards and commissions. Overviews of these organizations are presented in Appendix C.

[3] See Appendix C for overviews of the agencies and boards overseen by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

[4] See Appendix A for the mandate letter directions and their status for them. The June 10, 2014 mandate letter from Premier Christy Clark to the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Suzanne Anton, informed the development of the *Ministry of Justice 2015/16 Service Plan*, on which this report is based. Activities undertaken by the ministries in 2015/16 were also guided by subsequent mandate letters issued to Minister Anton during the 2015/16 fiscal year (June 12, 2015; July 30, 2015; and December 12, 2015), and by Premier Clark's mandate letter to Minister Mike Morris dated December 12, 2015, corresponding to the creation of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

- Over-representation of Aboriginal people in the justice system, as both victims and offenders;
- Violence against women remaining a significant concern, despite general declines in crime;
- Rapidly changing technology and increasing expectations for online services;
- Federal government commitments that impact the province;
- External audits, reviews and commissions of inquiry;
- Constitutional and legislative requirements; and
- Court decisions that impact service delivery.

To manage the potential impacts associated with these and other external factors, the ministries proactively identify risks and opportunities, assess them in terms of likelihood of occurrence and potential magnitude of impact, determine appropriate response strategies, and monitor progress.

Report on Performance

This section presents the ministries' goals and objectives, as set out in the *Ministry of Justice 2015/16 – 2017/18 Service Plan*, and provides a status report on the strategies to achieve them and the performance measures used to assess progress. [5]

At the close of fiscal year 2015/16, all of the mandate letter directions provided by Premier Christy Clark to the Attorney General and Minister of Justice and the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General were completed or significantly underway. These and other accomplishments of the ministries are reflected in the strategies presented here. Status updates for each of the mandate letter directions for both ministries are presented in Appendix A.

The ministries continue to operate in accordance with the Taxpayer Accountability Principles of cost-consciousness (efficiency), accountability, appropriate compensation, service, respect and integrity.

The ministries regularly monitor operations and performance, including conducting evaluations of pilot intitiatives. The ability to measure performance well is a critical enabler for getting results and achieving goals, and strengthening the business intelligence and performance management capacity of the ministries is a key component of the justice and public safety transformation agenda.

In addition, protocols are in place to ensure compliance with the Taxpayer Accountability Principles by the Legal Services Society (LSS), an independent organization funded by the provincial government that reports its activities to government through the Attorney General and Minister of Justice. These include: quarterly meetings between the Attorney General and Minister of Justice and the Chair of the LSS Board of Directors; quarterly meetings between the Deputy Attorney General and the LSS Chief Executive Officer; and a Standing Committee of the Deputy Attorney General and the CEO for addressing any issues arising between the parties. Measures of LSS performance against the Taxpayer Accountability Principles are included in their 2015/16 Annual Service Plan Report.

[5] Two of the performance measures included in the *Ministry of Justice 2015/16 – 2017/18 Service Plan* are not reported here as they relate to program areas that are now the responsibility of other ministries: the measure of timeliness of Disaster Financial Assistance private sector claim adjudication is reported in the annual report of the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure; and the rate of liquor store compliance with ID-checking requirements is reported by the Ministry of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction.

Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Performance Results

The ministries have jointly adopted the goals and objectives developed by British Columbia's Justice and Public Safety Council, as set out in the first *Strategic Plan for the Justice and Public Safety Sector, April 2014 – March 2017* and reaffirmed in the second annual update to the plan, released by the Council in March 2016. This sector-wide strategic plan was developed by the Council based on a wide range of advice, consultation and recommendations from leaders, participants and stakeholders across the justice and public safety sector in British Columbia. The goals and objectives developed by the Council are viewed as essential to the health of the sector.

> To maintain trust, we must ensure fairness. We must protect people, especially those who are most vulnerable. We must manage the sector in an innovative and sustainable way and, finally, we must ensure that the public has confidence in the integrity of the sector.
>
> *Strategic Plan for the Justice and Public Safety Sector, April 2014 – March 2017*

Goal 1: The justice and public safety sector in British Columbia is fair

Objective 1.1 Accessible
Objective 1.2 Impartial
Objective 1.3 Timely

Strategies

Ministry of Justice

- The *Civil Resolution Tribunal Amendment Act* received Royal Assent in May 2015. The legislation provides for the establishment of a mandatory Civil Resolution Tribunal for most small claims and strata property disputes. The Civil Resolution Tribunal, Canada's first online tribunal, will offer 24/7 access to user-focused services through the use of self-help, online dispute resolution, assessment and triage services. Following a competitive hiring process, 18 tribunal members were selected in May 2015. Once the Civil Resolution Tribunal commences operations, these tribunal members will hear strata and small claims cases and reach binding decisions, enforceable as a court order. Knowledge engineering and technology for the Solution Explorer online information pathways for strata were developed in 2015/16 and began a cycle of user testing. Work also began on the online intake process and technology for strata disputes.
- Tribunal Transformation is about shifting the way British Columbia's administrative tribunals deliver services to the public while streamlining business processes for efficient resource management. The *Administrative Tribunal Statutes Amendment Act,* brought into force in December 2015, enables the clustering of B.C.'s administrative tribunals. It gives tribunals the authority to make use of early dispute resolution methods – such as online dispute resolution – mandatory and enhances accountability through new reporting requirements. By moving service delivery online, integrating support services and systems, streamlining dispute resolution processes and clustering sector-based tribunals together, the infrastructure can be built for more efficient and effective tribunal services. This past year was about laying the groundwork for a

number of objectives, which will continue, as we work toward a modernized tribunal sector which will provide the public with more timely, less expensive and more accessible dispute resolution.

- Under the leadership of the Provincial Court, an Assignment Court model has been implemented in seven court locations to reduce delay and increase certainty in the scheduling of criminal cases. Related to this work, the Criminal Justice Branch implemented a series of case management and process reforms intended to facilitate increased resolution of prosecution files, improve readiness on matters, and enhance file ownership, or continuity of conduct, where operationally feasible. Progress on these criminal case management reforms continues to be monitored in order to achieve sustainable change.
- Government recognizes the pressures on courthouse facilities resulting from the rapid growth of the Lower Fraser Valley's population. The *Lower Fraser Valley Regional Plan Court Capacity Expansion Project Final Report*, developed by municipalities in the region, recommended two priority projects: expansion of the Surrey Provincial courthouse and a new courthouse in Abbotsford. In March 2015, expansion of the Surrey Courthouse was announced, including the addition of three courtrooms and two hearing rooms. The expansion of Surrey's busy provincial courthouse will cost an estimated $33.5 million, and will be completed by early 2018, paving the way for faster and smoother access to justice in the region. Government continues to develop options to increase courtroom capacity in the Lower Fraser Valley.

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

- The Road Safety Initiative is a multi-phase business transformation initiative expected to reduce traffic dispute pressures on the court system, improve police efficiency and road safety, and make justice more accessible for citizens. Phase One of the initiative will include: electronic roadside ticketing; online payment of traffic tickets; and robust business intelligence, integrating data to take dangerous drivers off the roads sooner. Phase Two scope will examine: a proposal for an administrative justice model to reduce pressures on the court system; a risk-based fine and point structure for traffic offences; and a new Driver Intervention and Improvement Program to more effectively improve driver behaviours.

Goal 2: The justice and public safety sector in British Columbia protects people

Objective 2.1 Preventative
Objective 2.2 Protective
Objective 2.3 Systemic Approach

Strategies

- Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Suzanne Anton, met with her federal, provincial and territorial colleagues in January 2016 to discuss key justice and public safety priorities and release the *Federal-Provincial-Territorial Framework to Address Violence Against Indigenous Women and Girls*. The framework identifies priorities to guide jurisdictions and their partners in a more coordinated approach as they develop programs and initiatives to address violence against

Aboriginal women and girls. Created with input from Aboriginal people and organizations across Canada, the framework identifies priorities in the areas of crime prevention, law enforcement, courts, corrections, victim services and other justice services, with an emphasis on improving relationships between justice and public safety sector professionals and Aboriginal people. The Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General have expressed support for the federal government's national inquiry into missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls and have committed to sharing with the federal government lessons learned from the B.C. Missing Women Commission of Inquiry.

- Through the federal *Aboriginal Justice Strategy*, the ministries are working in partnership with Justice Canada and the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development to support culturally-relevant, community-based alternatives and/or supports to the formal justice system (e.g., diversion, restorative justice, crime prevention and early intervention, circle sentencing, court liaison).
- The ministries support the work of the Cabinet Working Group on Mental Health in developing a cross-government strategy on mental health in British Columbia. Additionally, the ministries support individuals with mental health and substance use needs in the following areas:
    - Integrated Courts and corrections programs that are significantly reducing reoffending, such as the Drug Treatment Court of Vancouver, and Substance Abuse Management;
    - The *Mental Health Strategy for Corrections in Canada* which ensures continuity of care;
    - Crisis Intervention and De-escalation Training – mandatory training for all frontline police officers and supervisors that has been taken by more than by 8,000 police officers in British Columbia; and
    - Local police and health authority protocols for working with people with mental health and substance use needs.
- The ministries are collaborating in the development and implementation of a comprehensive disclosure strategy with the goal of achieving more effective and efficient management of criminal case disclosure across the criminal justice system. The objectives of this initiative include: developing a system-wide understanding of the disclosure process: reducing the overall resource burden associated with disclosure management practices; and building awareness and understanding of disclosure obligations and best practices.

Ministry of Justice

- Released in March 2016, the *Specialized Courts Strategy* provides an evidence-based, integrated approach for specialized courts in the province. Vancouver's Downtown Community Court, the Drug Treatment Court of Vancouver, First Nations Courts, Domestic Violence Courts, and the Victoria Integrated Court are all examples of innovative approaches that bring together justice, corrections, health and social services to collaborate and respond to the complex needs of individuals involved in the criminal justice system.
- In March 2015, the ministry released the *Surrey Criminal Justice Recommendations Report*, prepared by the Surrey Criminal Justice Task Force. The key outcome of the Task Force was the recommendation to create an Integrated Services Network to be led by the City of Surrey, reflecting the finding that increased collaboration between the justice, health and social service sectors is the most promising response to existing challenges. The proposed Network would be a

single location for all agencies involved in the co-delivery of programs and services aimed at reducing crime in Surrey. In fall 2015, the Surrey Integrated Services Network Committee was formed to further consider potential composition of services, and the location and administration of the Network. An evidence-based analysis of offenders coming through Court in Surrey is also being conducted to inform the areas to be considered for services.

- Following the June 26, 2014 Supreme Court of Canada's landmark decision, which granted a declaration of Aboriginal title to the Tsilhqot'in Nation, the Ministry of Justice has been working with First Nations and the B.C. Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation to develop a positive way forward. The goal is to ensure Aboriginal rights are protected as the Province pursues the economic growth that will benefit First Nations communities and all British Columbians.
- In January 2016, the B.C. Prosecution Service released the *Report on the 2011 Vancouver Stanley Cup Riot Prosecutions.* The report offers a behind the scenes look at the riot prosecutions, and the associated investigation and charge assessment process, and provides a comparative analysis between the B.C. approach and the United Kingdom riots. The report provides the B.C. Prosecution Service with a constructive opportunity to educate the public on the many dynamics that affect the way in which cases are managed, which in turn leads to enhanced awareness and greater transparency of decision-making, and supports continued public confidence in the administration of justice.

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

- The ministry continues to focus on preventing violence against women, responding when violence occurs, and assisting in re-building from the impacts of violence. Released in February 2015, *A Vision for a Violence Free BC* identifies violence against Aboriginal women and girls as a key priority, and charts the path to creating a province where comprehensive supports and initiatives are in place to help prevent violence, and where all women and girls can escape from violent situations and recover, if they have been victims of violence. This strategy builds on work already underway, including the commitment of more than $70 million per year in prevention and intervention services for victims of crime, including women and children impacted by violence. Civil forfeiture grant funding is used to support projects that align with the Violence Free BC strategy, as well as other anti-violence and prevention initiatives.
- Work is is substantially completed or underway on the major themes of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry report. Progress to date includes violence prevention work, improved policing practices, and compensation to the children of the murdered and missing women. These actions are outlined in the final status update report released in December 2014. The *Missing Persons Act* and Regulation are now in force, effective June 2015. In addition, the *Provincial Policing Standards on Missing Person Investigations* are complete and will come into effect in September 2016.
- The ministry continues to support the *Provincial Domestic Violence Action Plan,* released in February 2014 by the Provincial Office of Domestic Violence, Ministry of Children and Family Development, based on extensive consultations with anti-violence stakeholders and other partners. The ministry supports Domestic Violence Units, of which there are now seven in the province, and delivers cognitive behavioural programs to offenders at correctional centres and community offices across the province. In August 2015, government announced an investment of $1.5 million to increase services and supports throughout the province, and especially in rural and remote

communities, for Aboriginal people who are affected by domestic violence. In addition, domestic violence perpetrators, who previously only received intervention services following conviction, will soon have access to new, preventative community-based programs that can be attended prior to the charge, conviction or sentencing stage of the criminal justice process. $1 million has been made available to support this work.

- The social media and radio campaign, #SaySomething, launched in March 2015, seeks not only to raise awareness, but also to provide practical advice and strategies on how and when to safely seek help when experiencing or witnessing domestic violence. In March 2016, a new arm of the campaign was released to focus attention on the issue of sexual violence. The expanded campaign aims to change attitudes and behaviours that perpetuate sexual violence by dispelling myths, raising awareness, highlighting support for victims, and encouraging bystanders to speak up and take action. The host website, www.saysomtheingbc.ca provides information, videos and an array of resources regarding domestic violence and sexual violence for victims, perpetrators, service providers and the family members, friends and bystanders who want to help, referenced under the categories: I need help; where to get help; and I want to help.

- Approximately $60 million a year is provided to the RCMP in British Columbia for the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit (CFSEU-BC) and anti-gang initiatives. This investment supports frontline efforts to keep young people out of gangs and remove gangsters, their associates and illegal weapons from our streets. CFSEU-BC is the largest integrated joint forces police unit in Canada. It draws and develops highly specialized officers from federal, provincial and municipal agencies who are known for developing ground-breaking methods and techniques. CFSEU-BC's integrated approach enhances intelligence sharing, coordination and strategic deployment against threats of violence posed by organized crime groups and gangs. In addition to its gang-related suppression and enforcement efforts, CFSEU-BC, in collaboration with government and policing partners, is leading the way in gang prevention and education with the End Gang Life campaign and other public engagement initiatives. (For more information on CFSEU-BC, see page 27.)

- The ministry has been following through on recommendations set out in *Getting Serious About Crime Reduction*, a report from Parliamentary Secretary, Darryl Plecas, and the Blue Ribbon Panel on Crime Reduction released in December 2014. In 2015/16, an additional $5 million investment in the Guns and Gangs Strategy was announced to enhance community safety, focusing on three priority areas: targeting prolific, violent, and gang-affiliated offenders; getting tough on the root causes of crime through education and outreach; and strengthening safety for First Nation communities and vulnerable women. Programs receiving funding include: a gang-exit program; increased investments in education and outreach projects focused on at-risk and Aboriginal youth; and community-focused crime prevention. In addition, an inventory of government-led and police-led programs and initiatives related to recommendations from the report has been created, and a review is being undertaken to identify gaps and opportunities for the delivery of police-related crime reduction programs.

- The ministry supports the health, safety and wellbeing of First Nations and Aboriginal people in British Columbia through the joint work of the Coroners Service of British Columbia and the First Nations Health Authority. Pursuant to a *Memorandum of Understanding* signed in 2014, the Coroners Service and First Nations Health Authority are collaborating to: ensure meaningful mortality data surveillance; review Coroners Service practices to ensure they are culturally safe and that its staff are culturally competent; and strengthen relationships with First Nations

communities, families and individuals to ensure respect for the community-driven and nation-based decision making of First Nations, and the appointment of First Nations people as coroners in their communities.

- The Child Death Review Unit of the B.C. Coroners Service reviews the deaths of all children age 18 and under in British Columbia to better understand how and why children die, and to use those findings to prevent other deaths and improve the health, safety and well-being of all children in the province. Through these reviews, data are gathered that can show trends in child deaths. In some cases, deaths will be further reviewed by way of a cluster review or through the multidisciplinary Death Review Panel process. Information arising from these various reviews is analyzed and shared with agencies and organizations to influence and develop programs to deter or prevent child deaths. By understanding the risks, we can be guided in determining the most significant opportunities for prevention.
- In 2015/16, a Child Death Review Panel resulted in *A Review of Young Driver Deaths 2004 - 2013*. The panel reviewed in aggregate the circumstances of 106 youth drivers who died in motor vehicle incidents during that period. The panel, composed of experts from across the spectrum of both child-serving and road safety agencies, made three recommendations aimed at: the Graduated Licensing Program; enhanced Coroners Service and Insurance Corporation of British Columbia data collection; and reducing speed-related injuries and deaths. In early 2016, Child Death Review Panels also produced *A Review of Overdose Deaths in Youth and Young Adults 2009 – 2013* and *A Review of Fire-Related Deaths in Children and Youth 2005 – 2014*, making six meaningful and practical recommendations to prevent the deaths of children and youth in these tragic circumstances.
- Ten public inquests held in 2015 to review the circumstances of thirteen tragic deaths included inquests into the deaths of four workers who died in two sawmill explosions in northern British Columbia in 2012.[6] Held over several weeks in the communities of Prince George and Burns Lake, and hearing from dozens of witnesses – including survivors, WorkSafeBC investigators and chemical engineers – the juries reviewed the Lakeland and Babine Forest Products mill explosions and produced 66 recommendations aimed at ensuring the safety of resource industry workers. The inquests provided the public with the opportunity to hear first hand from subpoenaed witnesses about events preceding, during and following the massive mill explosions, and provided the province with meaningful recommendations to prevent future deaths in similar circumstances.
- Parliamentary Secretary for Corrections, Laurie Throness conducted a review of corrections in British Columbia to propose changes and improvements to protecting staff, inmates and communities where correctional centres are located. Throness met with corrections officials, staff and inmates, toured all nine correctional centres and 11 community corrections offices, and held regional roundtable consultations with 100 stakeholders. The resulting report, *Standing Against Violence*, released in December 2014, made 20 recommendations aimed at improving safety, assisting inmates with their transition to the community, and enhancing community corrections safety and supervision. The report also considered other options for discussion to bring about long-term, transformational change as a way to address the root causes of recidivism. Work on all of the recommendations related to safety in correctional centres is underway.

[6] Information on the ten public inquests held in 2015 can be found at http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/life-events/death-and-bereavement/coroners-service/inquest-schedule-jury-findings-verdicts/2015

- Following a review of North American best practices, the ministry implemented a new Electronic Supervision program in January 2016 which utilizes GPS, cellular and radio frequency to monitor offenders' compliance with curfews and/or geographic restrictions. This new technology also allows for the collection of client location information enabling the monitoring of 'no-go zones'.
- During 2015/16, the ministry continued to work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to combat distracted driving. A four-week public consultation on this issue was conducted by RoadSafetyBC in early summer 2015, with more than 10,000 submissions and comments on distracted driving received from British Columbians and road safety stakeholders. These consultations informed the new measures announced in May 2016 to give British Columbia one of the most comprehensive sets of penalties for distracted driving in Canada. The strengthened distracted driving penalties, which include increased fines, higher driver penalty points, and earlier driver intervention through the Driver Improvement Program, are a significant step towards combating distracted driving and decreasing the number of distracted driving crashes on British Columbia's roads. The ministry also worked with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to examine the possible need for improved designated driver legislation; based on that analysis, the ministries are working to develop non-legislative solutions.
- In January 2016, the ministry released a new report to help guide British Columbia in achieving the safest roads in North America. The result of collaboration by more than 40 road safety experts, *Moving to Vision Zero: Road Safety Strategy Update and Showcase of Innovation in British Columbia* aligns with Canada's *Road Safety Strategy 2025* and highlights the application of the safe systems approach – the understanding that road safety developments must account for the inevitability of human error, the limitations of the human body in withstanding force, and the responsibility of road and vehicle designers, policy makers and users. With this approach and implementation of evidence-based practices, and through a thorough study of how road safety is managed around the globe, the ministry is reinforcing its commitment to road safety principles that will lead to the province having the safest roads in North America.

Goal 3: The justice and public safety sector in British Columbia is sustainable

Objective 3.1 Focused
Objective 3.2 Managed
Objective 3.3 Effective

Strategies

- The Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General have been working toward information management and information technology (IM/IT) systems modernization to: increase integration and information sharing across the justice and public safety sector; ensure that information is accessible, accurate, complete and secure; and increase citizen access to, and improve interaction with, justice and public safety services.
- The ministries undertake evidence-based workforce planning and support an informed, engaged, innovative and performance-focused workforce that is prepared for the future. Initiatives underway include: developing a leadership framework to support succession management efforts

across the ministries; promoting and reinforcing respectful workplace practices; and improving staffing practices to reduce time and effort and meet future workforce needs while reinforcing meritorious staffing.

- The Lean approach has been adopted throughout the ministries to support improvement of processes and services while also building internal capacity through the elimination of unnecessary rules, processes, activities and non-essential steps. Two examples from 2015/16 highlight how small improvements can make a big difference: the Information Systems Branch implemented 'huddle boards' as a way to encourage empowerment and ideas from staff; and the Criminal Justice Branch reduced staff effort and anticipates savings of approximately $45,000 in postage fees alone by simply changing the way information packages are prepared and mailed to victims of crime.
- The ministries are actively participating in the Reducing Red Tape for British Columbians initiative – a key government priority to improve the service experience of citizens – and are committed to exploring citizens' ideas and acting on feasible improvements to deliver services that are faster, easier to access and simpler to use.

Ministry of Justice

- The Court Administration Transformation Suite refers to a series of service-focused initiatives that, building on existing court technologies and processes, will allow court matters to be conducted more efficiently both inside and outside the courtroom, and allow court information to be entered, accessed and shared more quickly and accurately among justice and public safety sector partners. Projects under this initiative include: Court Clerk Desktop (to improve efficiency, increase data quality, and address workload issues for court administration staff); Provincial Court Scheduling System (to improve trial scheduling, the allocation of court rooms and use of judicial resources); Crown Counsel Scheduling System (to allow the Provincial Court to more efficiently schedule court matters via electronic access to the availability of an assigned Crown Counsel, standardize and modernize internal Crown Counsel scheduling processes, and support and enhance Crown File Ownership goals); and expanding Court Services Online (to improve the ability to electronically file civil court documents).
- As part of continuing efforts to ensure the most effective management of existing resources, the ministry has been working with the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of British Columbia to support them in developing potential efficiencies and appropriate performance measures, with the goal of enhancing the business administration processes of the Superior Courts.

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

- Released in 2013, the *British Columbia Policing and Community Safety Plan* was designed to guide the evolution of policing in British Columbia over three, five and 10 years. In 2014, as part of its long-term policing strategy, the ministry established the Police Structure and Funding Expert Committee, comprising representatives from First Nations, local government, the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, the RCMP, independent police forces, a designated policing unit, and the B.C. Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development. The goal of the Committee was to assess how police services should be delivered in British Columbia and to determine which level of government should be responsible for their delivery. An analysis and review of the structure of policing in other provinces was conducted by the Expert Committee, as well as an

environmental scan of police services being delivered in British Columbia. Findings from the review and input from the Expert Committee are being used to inform policy analysis.

Goal 4: The justice and public safety sector in British Columbia has the public's confidence

Objective 4.1 Adaptive
Objective 4.2 Performance-focused
Objective 4.3 Empowering

Strategies

- The Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General are major participants in the transformation agenda for the justice and public safety sector and have completed many of the recommendations in *A Criminal Justice System for the 21st Century: Final Report to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General*. Prepared by Geoffrey Cowper, QC, the report was based on six months of extensive consultation with the judiciary, Crown counsel, the legal profession, police and members of the public to identify top issues affecting the criminal justice system and put forward ideas for criminal justice transformation. Sector-wide consultations continue and, in November 2015, the ministries participated in British Columbia's fifth Justice Summit. The summit brought together about 60 leaders from the judiciary, the legal profession, policing, victim services, corrections, community and advocacy organizations, First Nations groups, the academic community and the provincial government. The main goals of the Summit were to consider: a trauma-informed justice system for victims of violent crime; and better coordination and information sharing in and across family justice, criminal justice, and child protection proceedings to improve safety, access to justice and the administration of justice.
- Coordinated business intelligence and performance measurement systems are being developed across the ministries to assist with strategic planning, monitoring and decision making within the ministries and across the broader justice and public safety sector, and to enable better public reporting of progress toward the shared goals and objectives of the ministries. The ministries also continue to facilitate the publication of data sets via the DataBC website and through a variety of justice data dashboards to support informed dialogue between citizens and government regarding the functioning, accountability and performance of the sector.

Ministry of Justice

- Reflecting a commitment to provide early assistance and support early resolution whenever possible, dedicated funding of $2 million per year is being provided over three fiscal years since 2014/15 to support five Justice Innovation and Transformation Initiatives delivered by the Legal Services Society. All five pilot projects were launched and they have subsequently been evaluated. The five pilots include: expanded Family Duty Counsel at the Victoria Justice Access Centre; expanded Family LawLINE telephone advice service province-wide; a new mediation referral service offered in collaboration with Mediate BC province-wide; a new Parents Legal Centre for child protection matters at the Robson Square Vancouver Courthouse; and expanded Criminal Duty Counsel in Port Coquitlam.

- British Columbia continues in a leadership role in working with jurisdictions across Canada to enforce interjurisdictional support orders. Amendments to the *Family Maintenance Enforcement Act* have allowed a more efficient process for the collection of funds from assets or payors located in British Columbia, thereby cutting red tape and helping speed up enforcement action for those not making their payments. Amendments to the *Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act* have eliminated the need to require certified copies or orders in some cases, making this process more efficient. The amendments also facilitate the transfer of responsibility for serving support applications received from other jurisdictions from the Court to the British Columbia designated authority.

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

- Through its independent investigations, inquests and death review panels, the Coroners Service of British Columbia continues to provide the public with information about individual deaths, mortality trends and health and safety risks. The Coroners Service continues to enhance its data collection, data management and information sharing with groups and agencies to inform and support evidence-based, targeted safety initiatives. Recommendations formulated by coroners and inquest juries are aimed at preventing future deaths in similar circumstances.

Performance Measure 1: Crime rates

Police-reported crime rates in B.C. (*Criminal Code* offences per 1,000 persons)[1]	2013 Actual	2014 Actual	2015 Target[2]	2015 Actual[3]	2016 Target[4]	2017 Target
Violent crime[5]	12.6	11.5	11.4	NOT AVAILABLE	10.4	9.9
Property crime[6]	45.7	48.9	41.2	NOT AVAILABLE	44.1	41.9
Other crime[7]	16.2	15.6	14.6	NOT AVAILABLE	14.1	13.4
Overall crime rate	74.5	76.0	67.3	NOT AVAILABLE	68.6	65.2

Data Source: Crime data are obtained through the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey. Every police agency across Canada participates in this annual survey, which is managed nationally by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, a part of Statistics Canada. The data are reported by calendar year.

[1] The crime rate is the number of *Criminal Code* offences (excluding drug crimes and traffic-related offences) reported for every 1,000 persons. It is a better indicator of trends in crime than is the actual number of offences because it allows for population differences.

[2] The 2015 targets for this measure were included in the *Ministry of Justice 2015/16 – 2017/18 Service Plan* based on five per cent decreases from the forecast rates for 2014 that were developed at the time of service plan publication.

[3] It is anticipated that the rates for 2015 will be available late summer 2016, which is consistent with prior year reporting.

[4] The 2016 and 2017 targets are based on five per cent year to year decreases from the 2014 actual.

[5] Violent offences include homicide, attempted murder, sexual and non-sexual assaults, firearm offences, robbery, forcible confinement or kidnapping, abduction, extortion, criminal harassment, uttering threats, threatening or harassing phone calls, and other violent offences.

[6] Property offences include the offence categories of theft, motor vehicle theft, possession of stolen property, trafficking in stolen goods, identity theft, identity fraud, breaking and entering, arson, mischief, fraud, and altering/removing/destroying a vehicle identification number.

[7] *Criminal Code* offences which are not violent or property related are classified as 'other' offences. These include, but are not limited to, counterfeiting, offensive weapons, child pornography, prostitution, gaming and betting, offences related to currency, disturbing the peace, and offences against the administration of justice.

Performance Measure 2: Rates of non-reoffending

Percentage of adult offenders who are not re-convicted in B.C. within two years of release from custody, commencement of community supervision, or active supervision[1]	2013/14 Actual	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Target[2]	2015/16 Actual[3]	2016/17 Target[4]	2017/18 Target
Community Corrections	76.7	75.9	77.0	74.6	76.0	76.5
Custody	48.7	48.7	51.0	47.9	50.0	50.5
Overall rate of non-reoffending	72.2	71.6	73.0	70.1	72.0	72.5

Data Source: Results for this measure are derived from B.C. Corrections data, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

[1] This measure is defined as the per cent of offenders who are not re-convicted within two years of their release from custody or commencement and/or continuation of a community sentence and return to B.C. Corrections. The 2015/16 rate is based on sentenced offenders under supervision in 2013/14. The rates are calculated on the first day of each fiscal year for the purpose of the ministry's service plans and annual reports.

[2] The 2015/16 targets for this measure were included in the *Ministry of Justice 2015/16 – 2017/18 Service Plan* based on forecast rates for 2014/15 that were developed at the time of service plan publication.

[3] The 2015/16 targets for this indicator were not met. Criminal behaviour is a highly complex phenomenon involving a variety of individual and societal factors, and rates such as these are difficult to change. B.C. Corrections is working to improve rates of non-reoffending through continued focus on evidence-based strategies and increased collaboration with justice, social and health partners.

[4] The 2016/17 and 2017/18 targets have been updated based on the 2014/15 actual.

Performance Measure 3: Policing standards

Policing standards[1]	2013/14 Actual	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Target	2015/16 Actual[2]	2016/17 Target	2017/18 Target
Cumulative number of *British Columbia Provincial Policing Standards* approved for implementation	16	27	30	29	34	38

Data Source: Results for this measure are derived from records kept by the Policing and Security Branch, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

[1] The *British Columbia Provincial Policing Standards* serve to set benchmarks against which certain aspects of police activities are measured. They are designed to ensure the safe and effective delivery of policing and to strengthen police accountability.

[2] The 2015/16 actual did not meet the target established for the year. The development of new policing standards is currently undertaken by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General in consultation with an advisory committee comprised of interested stakeholders. Fiscal implications are considered during the development of new standards and significant efforts are made to mitigate costs.

Performance Measure 4: Traffic fatality and serious injury rates

Traffic fatality and serious injury rates	2010 – 2014 Baseline	2014 Actual	2015 Target[1]	2015 Actual[2]	2016 Target[3]	2017 Target
Number of traffic fatalities per 100,000 population	6.6	6.2	5.4	6.2	5.7	5.5
Number of serious traffic injuries per 100,000 population	55.3	56.8	57.7	55.7	52.2	49.9

Data Source: Data on the number of traffic fatalities is from the Traffic Accident System maintained by the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia. Data on serious injuries is from the B.C. Ministry of Health's Discharge Abstract Database. Serious injuries are defined as those requiring overnight hospitalization. Population estimates and projections are from BC Stats as of July 1 each year.

[1] The targets for 2015 were based on forecast rates for 2014 established for the *Ministry of Justice 2015/16 – 2017/18 Service Plan*.

[2] Results for 2015 are preliminary as there is typically a six-month delay for the data to be finalized. Based on the preliminary results, the 2015 target for the fatality rate was not met. As traffic fatality and serious injury rates are affected by random variations from year to year, trends in the rates are most meaningful when considered over the long term.

[3] The targets for 2016 and 2017 are based on forecast rates for 2015, as reflected in the joint *2016/17 – 2018/19 Service Plan* for the Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

Performance Measure 5: Rate of traffic fatalities and serious injuries involving high-risk driving behaviours

Rate of traffic fatalities and serious injuries involving high-risk driving behaviours[1]	2013 Actual	2014 Actual	2015 Target[2]	2015 Actual[3]	2016 Target[4]	2017 Target
The number, per 100,000 B.C. population, of serious injuries and fatalities resulting from a crash where alcohol, drugs, speed and/or distraction/inattention were assessed to be a factor.	31.8	31.6	29.6	32.8	29.0	27.8

Data Source: These rates are based on data collected from police attended crashes occuring on public roads that result in serious injuries or fatalities. Police record the factors they believe influenced the crash and assess whether victims have serious or fatal injuries. Serious injuries are assessed by the officer and may differ from hospitalization counts. A fatality or serious injury with more than one of these three contributing factors will be counted once for each incidence reported. Population estimates and projections are from BC Stats as of July 1 each year.

[1] The high-risk driving behavious within the scope of this measure (alcohol, drugs, speed and/or distraction/inattention) are the focus of RoadSafetyBC programs, and this measure is an indicator of success in protecting the public from these behaviours.

[2] The 2015 target was based on a forecast rate for 2014 in the *Ministry of Justice 2015/16 – 2017/18 Service Plan*.

[3] The actual did not meet the target established for 2015. Combatting high-risk driving behaviours continues to be a key priority of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General. It should be noted that the rate over time has decreased. For example, according to police data, from October 2010 to the end of March 2015, there was a 52% reduction in alcohol

related driving fatalities, far surpassing the province's goal in 2010 to reduce alcohol-related fatalities by 35% by the end of 2013.

[4] The targets for 2016 and 2017 are based on forecast rates for 2015, as reflected in the joint *2016/17 – 2018/19 Service Plan* for the Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

Performance Measure 6: Timeliness of victim financial assistance claim adjudication

Timeliness of victim financial assistance claim adjudication[1]	2013/14 Actual	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Target[2]	2015/16 Actual[3]	2016/17 Target[4]	2017/18 Target
Average number of days to adjudicate claims for financial assistance from victims and others impacted by violent crime	63	63	70	63	65	65

Data Source: Results for this measure are derived from the Electronic Victim Information System , taking into account the dates claims were received and the dates they were completed, as well as the cases that remain outstanding.

[1] This measure indicates the level of client service and system efficiency in administering the Crime Victim Assistance Program under the *Crime Victim Assistance Act*. To determine claimants' eligibility for benefits, the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General must obtain supporting information from third parties, such as police and medical professionals. This reliance on third parties to provide information results in the majority of claims being adjudicated within approximately two months; urgent cases requiring immediate assistance are expedited.

[2] The 2015/16 target was based on a 2015/16 forecast of 70 days established for the *Ministry of Justice 2015/16 – 2017/18 Service Plan*.

[3] The target for 2015/16 was exceeded. The actual of 63 days is reflective of decisions completed to May 31, 2015 and represents a completion rate of 90 per cent of applications received.

[4] The targets for 2016/17 and 2017/18 are based on a forecast of 65 days for 2015/16, as reflected in the joint *2016/17 – 2018/19 Service Plan* for the Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General. These targets reflect an ambitious effort to maintain this high level of service in the face of increasing applications.

Financial Report

Discussion of Results – Ministry of Justice

The Estimates operating expense budget of the ministry in 2015/16 was $473.7 million after two ministry reorganizations in 2015/16.[7] The ministry received a budget increase of $9.2 million compared to the 2014/15 fiscal plan including $5.7 million for compensation increases under the Crown Counsel Agreement and the Economic Stability Mandate, $2.2 million for the Downtown Community Court, and $1.3 million for the Judiciary primarily for judicial compensation.

The Public Accounts shows Other Authorizations of $23.7 million including $15.7 million in Contingencies Vote access primarily for major cases and prosecutions, Crown Counsel and legal services, Family Maintenance and Enforcement Program, replacement of the sheriff radio system, and support services, as well as $8.0 million statutory appropriation under the *Crown Proceeding Act* for settled claims against the government.

Including the Other Authorizations, the ministry's Total Estimated budget was $497.4 million compared to Actuals of $488.1 million; the savings in actual expenses as compared to the total estimated amounts was a result of the government reorganization.

Financial Report Summary Tables – Ministry of Justice

	Estimated	Other Authorizations[1]	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
Operating Expenses ($000)					
Justice Services	109,707	3,645	113,352	113,248	(104)
Prosecution Services	115,793	6,316	122,109	121,353	(756)
Court Services	99,426	1,098	100,524	101,210	686
Legal Services	18,005	4,056	22,061	18,204	(3,857)
Agencies, Boards and Commissions	12,990	0	12,990	12,945	(45)
Executive and Support Services	14,604	450	15,054	10,209	(4,845)
Judiciary	71,118	100	71,218	71,218	0
Crown Proceeding Act	24,500	8,018	32,518	32,518	0
Independent Investigations Office	7,544	0	7,544	7,324	(220)

[7] In December 2015, the Ministry of Justice became two ministries: the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General. In August 2015, responsibility for Emergency Management BC moved from the former Ministry of Justice to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. Also at that time, the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch and responsibility for the Liquor Distribution Branch were transferred to the Ministry of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction and Minister Responsible for the Liquor Distribution Branch.

British Columbia Utilities Commission	1	0	1	0	(1)
Statutory Services (Public Guardian and Trustee Special Account)	0	0	0	(44)	(44)
Adjustment of Prior Year's Accrual	0	0	0	(115)	(115)
Total	**473,688**	**23,683**	**497,371**	**488,070**	**(9,301)**
Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) ($000)					
Justice Services	0	0	0	0	0
Prosecution Services	0	0	0	12	12
Court Services	0	0	0	1,772	1,772
Legal Services	0	0	0	12	12
Agencies, Boards and Commissions	0	0	0	23	23
Executive and Support Services	2,825	0	2,825	276	(2,549)
Judiciary	590	0	590	600	10
Crown Proceeding Act	0	0	0	0	0
Independent Investigations Office	183	0	183	154	(29)
British Columbia Utilities Commission	10	0	10	0	(10)
Statutory Services (Public Guardian and Trustee Special Account)	363	0	363	256	(107)
Adjustment of Prior Year's Accrual	0	0	0	0	0
Total	**3,971**	**0**	**3,971**	**3,105**	**(866)**
Other Financing Transactions ($000)					
Executive and Support Services (Interest on trusts and deposits)	0	0	0	0	0
Receipts	(2,900)	0	(2,900)	(579)	2,321
Disbursements	2,900	0	2,900	579	(2,321)
Net Cash Source (Requirements)	0	0	0	0	0
Total Receipts	**(2,900)**	**0**	**(2,900)**	**(579)**	**2,321**

Total Disbursements	**2,900**	**0**	**2,900**	**579**	**(2,321)**
Total Net Cash Source (Requirements)	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

[1] Other Authorizations include Supplementary Estimates, Statutory Appropriations and Contingencies.

Environmental Appeal Board and Forest Appeals Commission Resource Summary Table

While the Board and the Commission operate independently from the Ministry of Justice, their budget vote is the responsibility of the Ministry. Therefore, they are not considered one of the core business areas accountable to the Attorney General, but they are included in the Annual Report.

	Estimated	Other Authorizations[1]	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
Operating Expenses ($000)					
Administration and Support Services	1,459	0	1,459	1,326	(131)
Environmental Appeal Board	312	0	312	291	(20)
Forest Appeals Commission	310	0	310	146	(164)
Adjustment of Prior Year's Accrual	0	0	0	(6)	(6)
Total	2,081	0	2,081	1,757	(324)

Electoral Boundaries Commission

While the Electoral Boundaries Commission operates independently from the Ministry of Justice, their budget vote is the responsibility of the Ministry. Therefore, they are not considered one of the core business areas accountable to the Attorney General, but they are included in the Annual Report.

	Estimated	Other Authorizations[1]	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
Operating Expenses ($000)					
Electoral Boundaries Commission	2,000	0	2,000	522	(1,478)
Total	2,000	0	2,000	522	(1,478)

Discussion of Results – Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

The Estimates operating expense budget of the ministry in 2015/16 was $668.7 million after two ministry reorganizations in 2015/16.[8] The ministry received a budget increase of $7.2 million compared to the 2014/15 fiscal plan including $2.6 million for compensation increases under the Economic Stability Mandate, $4.2 million for compensation increases under the provincial policing RCMP agreement, and $0.4 million for the Downtown Community Court and RoadSafetyBC initiatives.

The Public Accounts shows Other Authorizations of $7.1 million, including $4.9 million in Contingencies Vote access primarily for costs related to the provincial policing RCMP agreement, the Immediate Roadside Prohibition Program, and implementation of the new Okanagan Correctional Centre, and $2.3 million in additional statutory appropriation under the Criminal Asset Management Fund Special Account.

Including the Other Authorizations, the ministry's Total Estimated budget was $675.8 million compared to Actuals of $685.5 million; the excess in actual expenses over the total estimated amounts was a result of the government reorganization.

Financial Report Summary Tables – Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

	Estimated	Other Authorizations[1]	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
Operating Expenses ($000)					
Corrections	220,892	400	221,292	225,651	4,359
Policing and Security Programs	355,555	3,787	359,342	361,080	1,738
Victim Services and Crime Prevention	40,143	0	40,143	37,239	(2,904)
BC Coroners Service	12,319	0	12,319	12,518	199
RoadSafetyBC	9,149	670	9,819	13,284	3,465
Executive and Support Services	15,810	0	15,810	18,811	3,001
Statutory Services[2]	14,785	2,276	17,061	17,057	(4)
Adjustment of Prior Year's Accrual	0	0	0	(105)	(105)

[8] In December 2015, the Ministry of Justice became two ministries: the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General. In August 2015, responsibility for Emergency Management BC moved from the former Ministry of Justice to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. Also at that time, the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch and responsibility for the Liquor Distribution Branch were transferred to the Ministry of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction and Minister Responsible for the Liquor Distribution Branch.

Total	**668,653**	**7,133**	**675,786**	**685,534**	**9,748**
	Estimated	**Other Authorizations[1]**	**Total Estimated**	**Actual**	**Variance**
Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue) ($000)					
Corrections	0	0	0	1,925	1,925
Policing and Security Programs	0	0	0	70	70
Victim Services and Crime Prevention	0	0	0	0	0
BC Coroners Service	0	0	0	30	30
RoadSafetyBC	0	0	0	0	0
Executive and Support Services	9,253	0	9,253	1,006	(8,247)
Statutory Services	0	0	0	50	50
Adjustment of Prior Year's Accrual	0	0	0	0	0
Total	9,253	0	9,253	3,082	(6,171)

[1] Other Authorizations include Supplementary Estimates, Statutory Appropriations and Contingencies.

[2] Statutory Services includes the following Special Accounts: Civil Forfeiture Account; Corrections Work Program Account; Criminal Asset Management Fund; and Victim Surcharge.

Major Capital Projects – Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Representing the largest capital expansion in the history of B.C. Corrections, the Corrections Capital Asset Management Plan (CAMP) was developed to address current and future capacity demands in correctional centres in British Columbia. Since 2007, government has approved over $400 million in capital funding to expand correctional centre capacity throughout the province.

Government's CAMP Phase One approval included a total of $185 million in capital between 2008/09 and 2013/14 for three separate projects to add 340 new cells to the provincial capacity:

- A 20-cell expansion for women at the Prince George Regional Correctional Centre, completed in December 2010;
- A 104-cell addition at Alouette Correctional Centre for Women, completed in October 2012; and
- A 216-cell addition to the Surrey Pretrial Services Centre opened in February 2014.

The initial project in CAMP Phase Two was approved in December 2012 – the construction of a 378-cell Okanagan Correctional Centre within the Osoyoos Indian Band's Senkulmen Business Park north of Oliver.

The construction of the new Okanagan Correctional Centre is significant. The project is generating local jobs, community development and province-wide interest. Once complete, the $220 million, high-security centre will represent the largest value project to date for B.C. Corrections and will more than double capacity in the region. More than 240 full-time correctional officer jobs will be opening up in the region for both experienced officers and new recruits.

Major Capital Projects	Targeted Completion Date (Year)	Approved Anticipated Total Cost of Project ($ millions)	Project Cost to March 31, 2016 ($ millions)
Okanagan Correctional Centre: Construction of a new 378-cell correctional centre near Oliver to add required inmate capacity in accordance with the Corrections Capital Asset Management Plan. The project will be delivered as a public-private partnership, with the private partner providing the design, construction, financing and facility maintenance for a 30-year period following construction. Construction will be completed in 2016 with facility operations beginning in early 2017.	2016	220	178

Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit – British Columbia

In 1999, the Organized Crime Agency of British Columbia (OCABC) was developed as an independent Designated Policing and Law Enforcement Unit under the *Provincial Police Act*.

In 2004, the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit-British Columbia (CFSEU-BC) was developed in consultation with the provincial government as an initiative to integrate the OCABC, the municipal police departments and the RCMP. The Board of Governance for the OCABC also acts as the Board of Governance for the CFSEU-BC. The Board is comprised of: the Deputy Commissioner Pacific Region and Commanding Officer "E" Division RCMP; the President of the B.C. Association of Chiefs of Police; the President of the B.C. Association of Municipal Chiefs of Police; and the Chief Constable of the Vancouver Police Department. The Board determines the strategic direction of the CFSEU-BC and ensures its operational priorities are aligned with the policing priorities for British Columbia. The CFSEU-BC operates under the RCMP policies and procedures. Board members do not receive any remuneration.

The Chief Officer in charge of the CFSEU-BC leads an executive team comprised of civilian members in addition to regular RCMP and Municipal officers seconded from across the province. The CFSEU-BC Gang Enforcement Unit and Investigation Teams are just two of the areas that fall under the responsibility of the CFSEU-BC. Offices for the CFSEU-BC are located in the Lower Mainland, Prince George, Kelowna and Victoria.

The mission of the CFSEU-BC is to facilitate the disruption and suppression of organized crime that affects all. British Columbians. The mandate is to investigate, prosecute, disrupt, and suppress criminal organizations, consistent with local, regional, national, and international priorities. The CFSEU-BC also supports other agencies by assisting in organized crime and major crime investigations. More information can be found at: www.cfseu.bc.ca.

Appendix A: Ministers' Mandate and Actions Summary

Ministry of Justice

The following tables summarize the status of the mandate letter directions from Premier Christy Clark to the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Suzanne Anton, received prior to the release of the *Ministry of Justice 2015/16 – 2017/18 Service Plan* as well as during the 2015/16 fiscal year.

Mandate Letter Direction – June 10, 2014	**Ministry's Action**
1. Balance your ministerial budget in order to control spending and ensure an overall balanced budget for the province of British Columbia.	Completed. The ministry's 2015/16 budget was balanced.
2. Implement the recommendations of the report by Parliamentary Secretary John Yap on provincial liquor regulatory reform.	In August 2015, responsibility for the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch and the Liquor Distribution Branch were transferred to the Ministry of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction. At that time, government had implemented about 50 per cent of the recommendations.
3. Re-write the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act* for introduction in the Spring 2015 legislative session.	Completed. The *new Liquor Control and Licensing Act* received Royal Assent in May 2015.
4. Continue our justice reform agenda including integration and court efficiencies as envisioned in the Cowper Report.	Underway (See page 16)
5. Working with the Ministry of Children and Family Development and Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, support the provincial domestic violence unit and develop and implement Violence Free B.C.	Underway (See page 11)*
6. Begin the implementation of the long term plan to improve courtroom capacity and access to justice for residents in the Lower Fraser Valley.	Underway (See page 9)
7. Create a Policing Structure and Funding Committee to define federal, provincial and municipal policing funding responsibilities.	Completed (See page 15)*
8. Work with communities in the Lower Mainland, Greater Victoria and Central Okanagan regions to examine and implement options to improve policing integration.	Underway (See page 15)*
9. Receive and make recommendations to Cabinet on the report of Parliamentary Secretary Darryl Plecas and his Blue Ribbon Panel on crime reduction.	Completed (See page 12)*
10. Receive and make recommendations to Cabinet on the report by Parliamentary Secretary Laurie Throness on changes to the provincial correctional system.	Completed (See page 13)*
11. Complete the construction of the new Okanagan Correctional Centre on time and on budget.	Underway (See page 26)*

12. Continue the implementation of the recommendations of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry.	Substantially completed or underway (See page 11)
13. Work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to review and make recommendations on how to improve designated driver liability legislation.	Completed (See page 14)*
14. Review and make recommendations on how to strengthen anti-distracted driver legislation and penalties.	Completed (See page 14)*
15. Consider and present options to Cabinet on an updated *Election Act*.	Completed (Legislation introduced in March 2015)
16. Work with the Earthquake Review Board and present options to Cabinet on how to strengthen provincial earthquake preparedness once the report is received by government.	Completed. Following public release of the *British Columbia Earthquake Preparedness Consultation Report* in March 2015, Cabinet was briefed on the status of earthquake preparedness in B.C. and ongoing activities to strengthen it. This area of responsibility was transferred to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure on August 15, 2015.

* As of December 12, 2015, this area of responsibility resides with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

Mandate Letter Direction – June 12, 2015	**Ministry's Action**
1. Balance your ministerial budget in order to control spending and ensure an overall balanced budget for the province of British Columbia.	Completed. The ministry's 2015/16 budget was balanced.
2. Complete the implementation of the recommendations of the report by Parliamentary Secretary John Yap to ensure British Columbian consumers continue to benefit from these reforms through enhanced competition and increased retail choice.	This area of responsibility now resides with the Ministry of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction.
3. Work with UBCM on ways to streamline the liquor primary application process.	
4. Provide an update to Cabinet on the impact of the liquor reforms by December 31, 2015.	
5. Working with the Ministry of Children and Family Development and the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, support the Provincial Office of Domestic Violence, #saysomething programs and Violence Free B.C.	Underway (See pages 11-12)*
6. Review and make recommendations to Cabinet on ways to better enforce inter-jurisdictional support orders.	Completed (See page 17)
7. Complete the new Okanagan Correctional Centre on time and on budget.	Underway (See page 26)*
8. Work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to review and review and make recommendations to Cabinet on the potential of increasing fines in addition to driver demerit points for distracted driving offences.	Completed (See page 14)*

9. As part of the response to the Renteria report on earthquake preparedness, implement the neighbourhood emergency preparedness campaign.	This area of responsibility now resides with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.
10. Review electronic monitoring practices and, if required, make improvements to electronic monitoring technology in British Columbia.	Completed (See page 14)*

* As of December 12, 2015, this area of responsibility resides with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

Mandate Letter Direction – July 30, 2015	**Ministry's Action**
1. Balance your ministerial budget in order to control spending and ensure an overall balanced budget for the province of British Columbia.	Completed. The ministry's 2015/16 budget was balanced.
2. Work with the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development and Minister Responsible for TransLink, and the UBCM on ways to improve community safety in British Columbia and report back to Cabinet on these initiatives by March 31, 2016.	Completed (See page 12)*
3. Work with the Government of Canada on ways to reduce the incidence of gun violence in British Columbia, including, but not limited to, an examination of whether or not sentences for crimes committed with illegal firearms need to be increased and whether there needs to be increased police resources dedicated to reducing the number of illegal guns in British Columbia.	Underway (See page 12)*
4. Working with the Ministry of Children and Family Development and the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, support the Provincial Office of Domestic Violence, #saysomething programs and Violence Free BC.	Underway (See pages 11-12)*
5. Review and make recommendations to Cabinet on ways to better enforce inter-jurisdictional support orders.	Completed (See page 17)
6. Complete the new Okanagan Correctional Centre on time and on budget.	Underway (See page 27)*
7. Work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to review and make recommendations to Cabinet on the potential of increasing fines in addition to driver demerit points for distracted driving offences.	Completed (See page 14)*
8. Review electronic monitoring practices and, if required, make improvements to electronic monitoring technology in British Columbia.	Completed (See page 14)*

* As of December 12, 2015, this area of responsibility resides with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

Mandate Letter Direction – December 12, 2015	Ministry's Action
1. Balance your ministerial budget in order to control spending and ensure an overall balanced budget for the province of British Columbia.	Completed. The ministry's 2015/16 budget was balanced.
2. Continue and accelerate the work you have been spearheading to significantly transform justice in British Columbia.	Underway (See page 16)
3. Work with the federal government as they implement their commitment to a national inquiry into murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls in Canada.	Underway (See page 10)
4. Work with the federal government and other provinces and territories to further the use of Civil Resolution Tribunals to resolve issues for British Columbians outside of a courtroom environment for non-criminal litigation and strata matters.	Underway (See page 8)
5. Review and make recommendations to Cabinet on ways to better enforce inter-jurisdictional support orders.	Completed (See page 17)

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

The following table summarizes the status of the mandate letter directions from Premier Christy Clark to Mike Morris, when he was named Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General on December 12, 2015.

Mandate Letter Direction – December 12, 2015	Ministry's Action
1. Balance your ministerial budget in order to control spending and ensure an overall balanced budget for the province of British Columbia.	Completed. The ministry's 2015/16 budget was balanced.
2. Work on ways to improve community safety in British Columbia and report back to Cabinet on those initiatives by March 31, 2016. This should include a strategy to maximize our recent $5 million investment towards integrating community partnership pilot projects.	Completed (See page 12)
3. Work with communities to advance crime reduction initiatives and implement the lessons of the Blue Ribbon Panel Crime Reduction Report with an emphasis on prolific and violent offenders.	Underway (See page 12)
4. Work with the federal government to advance initiatives to combat illegal firearms, organised crime and extremism.	Underway (See page 12)
5. Work with police, local and First Nations communities to enhance the protection of vulnerable persons with an emphasis on violence against women.	Underway (See pages 9-11)
6. Work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to review and make recommendations to Cabinet on the potential of increasing fines in addition to driver demerit points for distracted driving offences.	Completed (See page 14)

Appendix B: Contact Information and Hyperlinks to Additional Information

#SaySomething
Social media site; Multiple Languages
Resources for domestic violence victims, perpetrators, service providers and the family members, friends and bystanders who want to help

Human Trafficking Helpline
1-888-712-7974
Confidential; Free; 24 hours/7 days; Multiple Languages
For assistance with human trafficking cases, including emergency services, and accessing shelter, interpretation and translation services

VictimLink BC
1-800-563-0808
Confidential; Free; 24 hours/7 days; Multiple Languages
Provides help and information for victims of family and sexual violence, and all other crimes

JusticeBC
Provides online access to more than 300 pages of information about the criminal and family justice systems, as well as links to other resources and services

Ministry of Justice

Office of the Deputy Attorney General
- 250-356-0149

Court Services Branch
- 250-356-1550

Criminal Justice Branch
- 250-387-3840

Justice Services Branch
- 250-356-6582
  - Dispute Resolution Office
  - Family Maintenance Enforcement Program
  - Family Justice Centres
  - Investigation and Standards Office
  - Justice Access Centres

Legal Services Branch
- 250-356-8467

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Office of the Deputy Solicitor General

- 250-356-0149

BC Coroners Service

Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch

- 604-660-5199
  - Civil Forfeiture Office
  - Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons
  - Victim Services

Corrections Branch

- 250-387-5059

Policing and Security Branch

- 250-387-1100

RoadSafetyBC

- 250-387-7747

Appendix C: Agencies, Boards and Commissions

Ministry of Justice

BC Ferry Commission

The BC Ferry Commission is a quasi-judicial regulatory agency operating under the *Coastal Ferry Act*. The Commission regulates the ferry operator British Columbia Ferry Services Inc. (BC Ferries) on 25 saltwater routes and is independent of both the provincial government and BC Ferries. The primary responsibility of the Commissioner is to regulate ferry fares. The Commissioner sets a price cap on the average level of fares which BC Ferries can charge, the goal of which is to balance the interests of ferry users with the interests of taxpayers while protecting the financial sustainability of the ferry operator. Other key tasks include: monitoring adherence to the terms of the Coastal Ferry Services Contract; approval of major capital expenditures; regulating unfair competitive advantage; and the approval and monitoring of BC Ferries' customer complaints process.
www.bcferrycommission.com

British Columbia Human Rights Tribunal

The British Columbia Human Rights Tribunal is responsible for accepting, screening, mediating and adjudicating complaints under the *Human Rights Code*. It provides parties the opportunity to resolve complaints through mediation; complaints that are not resolved through mediation proceed to a hearing before the Tribunal. The Tribunal is accountable to the legislature through the Attorney General and functions independently of government on all matters related to adjudication of complaints. Orders of the Tribunal are enforceable in the British Columbia Supreme Court.
www.bchrt.bc.ca

British Columbia Law Institute

The British Columbia Law Institute was created in January 1997 to: promote the clarification and simplification of the law and its adaptation to modern social needs; promote improvement of the administration of justice and respect for the rule of law; and, promote and carry out scholarly legal research. www.bcli.org

British Columbia Review Board

The British Columbia Review Board conducts hearings to review and assess the mental condition and level of threat to the public posed by mentally disordered accused persons for the purpose of determining whether they should be absolutely or conditionally discharged, or detained in a designated place of custody. www.bcrb.bc.ca

British Columbia Utilities Commission

The British Columbia Utilities Commission operates under and administers the *Utilities Commission Act*, regulating utilities to ensure customers receive safe, reliable and non-discriminatory energy services at fair rates, and that shareholders of those utilities are afforded a reasonable opportunity to earn a fair return on their invested capital. www.bcuc.com

Environmental Appeal Board

The Environmental Appeal Board is an independent agency which hears appeals from certain decisions made by government officials related to environmental issues. These decisions include water licences, contaminated site remediation orders, pesticide permits and the cancellation of hunting licences, among other things. The Environmental Appeal Board plays a role in ensuring the protection and wise use of the environment by providing a quasi-judicial access point for the public and industry to appeal certain government decisions. www.eab.gov.bc.ca

Forest Appeals Commission

The Forest Appeals Commission is an independent tribunal established under the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act* and continued under the *Forest and Range Practices Act*. The Commission hears appeals from certain decisions made by government officials related to forests and the environment. www.fac.gov.bc.ca

Independent Investigations Office

The Independent Investigation Office was established to conduct critical incident investigations regarding police-related incidents involving death or serious harm. The Office is under the direction of the Chief Civilian Director, a position for which one cannot ever have served as a police officer. www.iiobc.ca

Legal Services Society

The Legal Services Society provides legal aid in British Columbia as set out in the *Legal Services Society Act*. Services include legal information and advice to, and representation of, people with low incomes. The Province provides most of the society's funding, but the Legal Services Society remains independent of government. The society reports its activities to government through the Attorney General and determines the range of services it will provide within the framework of a memorandum of understanding negotiated with the Attorney General every three years. www.lss.bc.ca

Oil and Gas Appeal Tribunal

The Oil and Gas Appeal Tribunal is an independent quasi-judicial agency that hears appeals from decisions of the Oil and Gas Commission which include certain orders, declarations, findings of contravention, administrative penalties and permitting decisions in relation to an 'oil and gas activity' such as geophysical exploration, the construction or operation of a pipeline, road construction, and the production, gathering, processing, storage or disposal of petroleum, natural gas or both. www.ogat.gov.bc.ca

Public Guardian and Trustee of British Columbia

The Public Guardian and Trustee is a corporation sole established under the Public Guardian and Trustee Act with a unique statutory role to protect the interests of British Columbians who lack legal capacity to protect their own interests. The mandate of the Public Guardian and Trustee is to: protect the legal and financial interests of children under the age of 19 years; protect the legal, financial, personal and health care interests of adults who require assistance in decision making; and administer the estates of deceased and missing persons. www.trustee.bc.ca

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Consumer Protection BC

Consumer Protection BC was established in 2004 under the *Business Practices and Consumer Protection Authority Act* and, as delegated by the provincial government, is responsible for administering British Columbia's consumer protection laws, namely the *Business Practices and Consumer Protection Act,* the *Cremation, Interment and Funeral Services Act*, and the *Motion Picture Act*, along with a variety of associated consumer protection regulations. It is a not-for-profit corporation that protects consumers and encourages a fair marketplace in the province. www.consumerprotectionbc.ca

Motor Vehicle Sales Authority of British Columbia

The Motor Vehicle Sales Authority of British Columbia is an administrative authority delegated by the provincial government to administer and enforce the *Motor Dealer Act* and its regulations, the *Business Practices and Consumer Protection Act* as it relates to the sale of motor vehicles, and other related statutes. Founded in 2004 and formerly named the Motor Dealer Council of BC, the agency became one of the first examples of government's new approach for administering public policy through a delegated administrative authority. mvsabc.com/

Police Boards

In British Columbia, independent municipal police departments are overseen by appointed police boards made up of civilian members of the community. The role of police boards is to provide general direction to the department, in accordance with relevant legislation and in response to community needs. www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/justice/criminal-justice/policing-in-bc/municipal-police-boards